



Media Advisory



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For Immediate Release | Contact:

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TARDEC To Launch Fuel Efficient Demonstrator Program

DETROIT ARSENAL, WARREN, MI — The U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC) will launch the Fuel Efficient Ground Vehicle Demonstrator (FED) Program with an Industry Day Sept. 30, 2008, at Automation Alley in Troy, MI.

Initiated by the Secretary of Defense to address energy conservation needs, the program's goal is to improve military vehicle fuel consumption, thereby reducing the Department of Defense's dependence on oil, through a collaborative environment with government and industry subject-matter experts (SMEs). Industry day will provide information about TARDEC's vision, current U.S. Army fuel efficient programs and participation in the program.

In general, SMEs will submit potential technologies on a Web portal, then meet to brainstorm and evaluate proposals on their potential to increase fuel economy and develop solutions that maintain performance, capability and payload.



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“We are setting a new standard for collaborative efforts with these programs, and innovative projects like this one help explain why TARDEC was designated as the U.S. Army’s Ground Vehicle Center for Excellence,” explained TARDEC Director Dr. Grace M. Bochenek. “This is one of those rare opportunities that allow our researchers to work side-by-side with those who have demonstrated expertise in novel and innovative design in the automotive and manufacturing sectors.”

FED organizers plan on using a highly successful but unique approach that brought about many improvements last year to High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWVs). The “Monster Garage” approach, based on the popular Discovery Channel™ television show, allowed this team to deliver a package of upgrades with components that integrated with and significantly enhanced the HMMWVs’ protection, performance and payload capabilities.

A link to Automation Alley and listings of resume and technology deadlines are listed on the FED Web site, <http://www.peogcs.army.mil/FED/default.aspx>. Anyone interested in participating is encouraged to explore the site.

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News media or members of the trade press: If you would like to cover this event, please register on the FED Web site at <http://www.peogcs.army.mil/FED/industryday.aspx>.

Note: There is a piece of graphic art that can be used with this release. To download the artwork, go to <http://www.tardec.info/pressreleases/>.



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TARDEC is the Nation's laboratory for advanced military ground systems and automotive technology. A leading technology integrator for the U.S. Army Materiel Command's Research Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM), TARDEC is headquartered at the Detroit Arsenal in Warren, MI, located in the heart of the world's automotive capitol. TARDEC is a major element of RDECOM and partner in the TACOM Life Cycle Management Command. As a full life-cycle engineering support provider-of-first-choice for all DOD ground combat and combat support weapons and vehicle systems, TARDEC develops and integrates the right technology solutions to improve Current Force effectiveness and provide superior capabilities for the Future Force. TARDEC's technical staff leads research in ground vehicle survivability; mobility/power and energy; robotics and intelligent systems; maneuver support and sustainment; and vehicle electronics and architecture. TARDEC develops and maintains ground vehicles for all U.S. Armed Forces and numerous federal agencies.

For additional information about TARDEC's forthcoming developments and other technologies, please contact Mike Roddin at mike.rodin@us.army.mil.

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